(c) whether responsibility has been fixed in the case and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) The rail accident of the 415 Repalle Secunderabad passenger on 29.10.05 between the Ramanapet-Valigonda station of the Guntur Division of the South Central Railway, in the Nalgonda district of Andhra Pradesh, resulted in 116 deaths and injuries to 104 passengers.

As per the provisional findings contained in the preliminary Report of Commissioner of Railway Safety, South Central Circle, the accident has occurred due to the train running on a portion of track, in hanging condition, flooded and damaged by breach of bund of Rama Samudram Tank of Golnepalli Village, leading to sudden heading up of water, flowing over the railway formation with intense velocity, scouring the river bed under the bridge and causing its settlement and breach of adjoining formation due to abnormal heavy rainfall in the area.

Steel Production

†435. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of steel produced in the financial year 2003-04 and the quantity of steel likely to be produced in the country by the year 2020 and the expected demand at that time;

(b) the total quantity of iron-ore needed for the required steel production;

(c) the total quantity of iron-ore likely to be available in the country at present; and

(d) the names of the States in the country having iron-ore mines and the number of ensuing years upto which the iron ore would remain available?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) The total quantity of the domestic production of finished (carbon) steel during the financial year 2003-04 was 36.957 million metric tones. In the National

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Steel Policy it has been envisaged that by 2019-20 the country would attain an indigenous production of 110 million metric tones of finished (carbon) steel and the domestic demand for the same by that time would be 90 million metric tonnes.

(b) It has been estimated in the National Steel Policy that in order to achieve an indigenous production of 110 million metric tonnes of finished (carbon) steel 190 million metric tonnes of iron-ore would be required.

(c) The in-situ reserves of relatively rich iron ore in India are 11.43 billion tonnes of haematite and 10.68 billion tonnes of magnetite ores.

(d) The name of the States in the country having iron-ore mines/producing iron ore are Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa and Rajasthan. As per Ministry of Mines, it is estimated that based on a steel production target of 110 million tones by 2020 these reserves should last for 125 years.

Greenfields Projects

436. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many large international steel companies have approached Government with proposals for Greenfield projects across India;

(b) if so, whether Government have formulated any policy to grant mining rights of iron ore to the foreign companies;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the policy also covers right to exports iron ore by foreign companies?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) As per the available information, two large international steel companies have signed Memorandum of Understanding one each with the State Governments of Orissa and Jharkhand to set up mega steel projects in these States.

(b) and (c) The Government had announced its National Mineral Policy for non-fuel and non-atomic minerals in 1993 and it is still in operation. In